

## Dispersed Camping on the Bridger-Teton National Forest

### What is Dispersed Camping?

- Camping (Tent, Car, or RV camping) anywhere in the National Forest OUTSIDE of a designated campground. In undeveloped areas of the forest, there are no services (such as potable water and trash removal) and generally no facilities (such as tables and restrooms.)
- Remember to bring the right gear:
  - Water (Enough for you and your fire)
  - Food storage (Be Bear Aware)
  - Shovel (To dig your bathroom & to extinguish campfires)
  - Garbage bags (Pack it in, pack it out)
  - Map (It's a good idea to know where you're going)
  - Bucket (Extra water or a seat) Multiple Uses!
  - Camp Stove (Camp fires aren't always allowed)
  - Personal Medications/ First Aid Kit

### Where Can I Disperse Camp?

- Dispersed camping is allowed **off** roads within the National Forest.
  - There are seasonal restrictions on where you can camp.
    - [Map](#) of restricted areas.
    - You may not camp within ½ mile of the Snake and Hoback River. From between South Park to Sheep Gulch and Hoback Junction to Granite Creek.
- [Motor Vehicle Use Map \(MVUM\)](#) These maps show Forest Service Roads and their opening and closure dates and vehicle size and class restrictions.
  - You may drive only up to 300 feet off the road to camp.

### Rules for Dispersed Camping

- Pulling off of the road to camp, keeping your vehicle within 300 feet of the road.
  - You may camp farther away from the road
  - Do not block the road
- The Bridger-Teton National Forest has a 16 day stay limit. (With the exception of Jackson Ranger district for the summer season.)
  - After 16 days you must move 5 road miles from your original campsite. After an additional 7 days, you may return to your original campsite.
- **May 1<sup>st</sup> – Labor Day**, Dispersed Camping Regulations in **Jackson Ranger District**.
  - [Order Number: 04-04- 317](#)
  - A 5 day stay limit is in effect. After 5 days, you **must** move to another Ranger District to camp. You may only return to the Jackson Ranger District after 30 days.
- [Order Number: 04-03-318](#) No camping in Cache Creek. [Map](#)
- [Order Number: 04-03-321](#) No camping near ski areas. [Map](#)
- Try to place your campsite at least 200 feet from any stream or other water source.
- If camping with livestock, you **MUST** hitch/ picket/ tether stock at least 200 feet from a lake, and 100 feet from a stream. In accordance with [Special Order: GYCC-6](#).

### Campfires

- Please use existing sites and fire rings.
- **Before you leave your campfire make sure is it completely out. You should be able to put your whole hand into the ashes without being burned, it should be cool to the touch. Stir the ashes to make sure all embers have cooled. This is very important! Many forest fires are caused by abandoned campfires that were not completely put out.**
- Check for fire restrictions

### Be Bear Aware

- [Food Storage Order](#) is in effect from March 1 through December 1 (order can be extended.) In **most** of the Pinedale, Blackrock, Grey's River, and Jackson Ranger Districts.
- All food, attractants, and refuse must be [acceptably stored](#) or acceptably possessed during daytime hours.
  - Bear Canisters (certified and properly used)
  - Within Secured vehicles and hard sided trailers (no open top jeeps/ pickup beds)
  - [Properly Hung](#) from trees/ poles (10ft up off the ground and 4ft from vertical pole)

### How to Pick a Campsite/ Camping Etiquette

- Be respectful of natural setting. Minimize your impact by using established camps, camp on hard surfaces, avoid being directly next to water, and leave the site better than you found it.
- Be respectful of other campers, keep a decent distance from other campers when possible.

### Going to the Bathroom in the Woods

- To dispose of solid human waste, dig a hole six (6) inches deep at least 200 feet away from any water source. When you are done, fill the hole with the dirt you dug up and take your toilet paper with you to dispose of in a proper waste container.
- Never defecate or leave toilet paper on top of the ground. It could easily get into the local water source and contaminate it.
- Be respectful to future campers, nobody wants to recreate in a toilet paper strewn forest.